

March 21, 2011

Dear Sheriff Youngblood,

For the second year, ORV Watch Kern County fully supports the Kern County Sheriff's Department application for law enforcement grant monies.

Our support for the agency's 2010 request is even more enthusiastic this year, as we witness not only the continuing damage, to private and public lands, created by illegal off-roading, but the dedication shown by KCSD personnel.

While tension between rogue ORV riders and private property owners have not abated, we have become increasingly impressed with the response to citizen concerns exhibited by the department, despite facing mounting challenges to funding and resources. The department's actions to curb off-road abuse, particularly under the direction of Deputy Marquez, have been creative, unceasing, and, at times, enormously effective in bringing lawless riders to justice, and in assuring property owners that their complaints do not go unaddressed.

Furthermore, as to ORV damages sustained by public lands in our county (such as the cherished Pacific Crest Trail, which runs through the Tehachapi Mountains, have sustained terrible damage from illegal riders), the KCSD, facing severe budgetary restraints, has participated in several coordinated efforts to issue citations and make educational contacts. This has been true not only of the agency's headquarters, but of each KCSD substation.

We are proud to support our KCSD request.

ORV WATCH KERN COUNTY

<http://www.orvwatchkerncounty.com>

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